GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2308
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2004
LEGAL AID TO SCS/ STS
Chouhan Shri Shivraj Singh

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government propose to provide legal aid to the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes throughout the country ;

(b) Whether the Government has sought the guidance of legal experts in this regard,

(c) If so, the details thereof alongwith the suggestions received from various Government agencies in this regard;

(d) Whether the ministry has gone through these suggestions, and

(e) If so, the decision taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K.VENKATAPATHY)

(a) to (e): The Government has already enacted Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society. Under section 12(a) of the aforesaid Act, a member of the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe who has to file or defend a case, is entitled to Legal Services irrespective of his/her income.